



Borough of Queenscliffe

Domestic Animal Management Plan



2021-2025

Review Date: 6th July 2021

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1 INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

1.1 PURPOSE OF DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act requires Council to prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAM Plan):

- (1) Every Council must, in consultation with the Secretary (of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resource), prepare at four-year intervals a domestic animal management plan.
- (2) A domestic animal management plan prepared by a Council must –
 - (a) set out a method for evaluating whether the animal control services provided by the Council in its municipal district are adequate to give effect to the requirements of this Act and the regulations; and
 - (b) outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in the Council's municipal district; and
 - (c) outline programs, services and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district –
 - (i) to promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats; and
 - (ii) to ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation; and
 - (iii) to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals; and
 - (iv) to address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats; and
 - (v) to encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats; and
 - (vi) to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and
 - (vii) to effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations; and

- (d) provide for the review of existing orders made under this Act and local laws that relate to the Council's municipal district with a view to determining whether further orders or local laws dealing with the management of dogs and cats in the municipal district are desirable; and
- (e) provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary; and
- (f) provide for the periodic evaluation of any program, service, strategy or review outlined under the plan

Every Council must –

- (g) review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan; and
- (h) provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan; and
- (i) publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

Statutory Compliance

Council is required to provide an Animal Management service to ensure that community amenity and safety, is not compromised by animals. That customer requests and complaints are responded to, and that all relevant Acts, Regulations and Local Laws are enforced.

In doing so, Council must comply with the following Acts and Regulations:

- Domestic Animals Act and Regulations 1994;
- Impounding of Livestock Act 1994;
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986;
- Infringements Act 2005; and
- Local Government Act 1989.

And have regard to applicable guidelines and standards including:

- Code of Practice for the Management of Animals in Shelters and Pounds;
- Code of Practice for the Operation of Pet Shops;
- Code of Practice for the Operation of Breeding and Rearing Establishments;
- Code of Practice for the Operation of Boarding Establishments;
- Code of Practice for the Operation of Dog Training Establishments; and
- Code of practice for the Operation of Greyhound Establishments.

1.2 PROCESS APPLIED IN DEVELOPING THE PLAN

In determining the key issues for this Plan, the following matters were considered:

- All stakeholders in the plan
- Information received by various animal welfare groups
- Submissions provided by interested parties
- Benchmarking statistics provided by State Government;
- Recommendations made by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI);
- Statistics on service requests made by residents of the Borough of Queenscliffe
- National and international research on companion animals;

1.3 DEMOGRAPHIC AND PROFILE OF COUNCIL

The Borough Queenscliffe is the smallest municipality in Victoria, comprising just over 13 square kilometres and comprises the townships of Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale.

It is located at the eastern tip of the Bellarine Peninsula and is surrounded by Bass Strait, Port Phillip Bay and Swan Bay on three sides. On its fourth side, it has a land boundary with the City of Greater Geelong.

The Borough of Queenscliffe is situated adjacent to Swan Bay, a Ramsar wetland of international significance. Swan Bay supports an abundance of birdlife including resident and migratory shorebirds and endangered Orange-bellied Parrots. Important wetlands adjacent to Point Lonsdale provide connecting wetland habitats and movement corridors for wetland fauna, including migratory shorebirds and Orange-bellied Parrots. The ocean beach abutting Point Lonsdale is habitat for many shorebirds, including Hooded Plovers, a threatened shorebird species. The foreshore woodlands surrounding the Borough provide habitat for native fauna.

In 2001 the Borough of Queenscliffe implemented an order under the Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animals Act 1994, that the owner of any dog must keep it under effective control by means of a leash or chain when they are in a public place. Additional information on restricted times for dogs to be on the beach and a cat curfew was also included.

As at the 6th July 2021 there are 625 dogs and 112 cats, being a total of 737 animals registered with Council.

Borough of Queenscliff Council – Key Statistics – 2020-2021	Queenscliff	Like Councils
Population (Residential Premises)	2853	16,000
Number of Authorised Animal Control officers	2	3.25
Hours Training (per officer annually)	20	32
Number of EFT Animal Control Officers	1.5	unknown
Number of Registered Dogs	625	5,058
Estimated dogs owned (based on BIS Shrapnel data)	1643/514	Unknown
Number of Registered Cats	112	1,373
Estimated cats owned (based on BIS Shrapnel data)	1070/342	Unknown
Number of Registered Declared Dogs	0	2
Number of impounded dogs	13	243
Number of Dogs returned to owners	90	138
Number of Dogs rehoused	0	59
Number of impounded dogs euthanized	0	51
Number of impounded cats	2	115
Number of cats returned to owners	1	9
Number of cats rehoused	1	14
Number of impounded cats euthanized	0	104
Number of excess animal permits – Local Law	2	15
Number of Restricted Breed premises	0	2

1.4 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Current Programs and Services	Service Level
Wandering dogs – held by 3 rd party	<p>Collected at first available opportunity – generally within 1 hour during normal working hours.</p> <p>Collected at first available opportunity outside normal working hours. (can be lengthy period of time based on officer availability and location)</p>
Dog Attacks	Attend at first available opportunity – generally within 15 minutes during working hours or as soon as possible outside normal working hours. (can be lengthy period of time based on officer availability and location)

Dangerous Dogs/Restricted Breeds complaints	Complaints are dealt with as a matter of priority. Action is taken based upon the evidence gathered by the investigating officer.
Domestic Animal Complaints	Dependent upon the nature of complaint the matter is dealt with on an as required basis in relation to timeframes. Generally all matters are attended to within 1 hour during normal work hours.
Community Information	Council provides community information and distributes press releases on various animal topics including registration and micro-chipping requirements. Council provides advice to any persons requesting information.
Routine street patrols	Patrols are carried out on an on-going continual basis. Both Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale are patrolled daily.
Beach patrols	Beaches are patrolled during the summer months on a regular basis. Checks are on-going with regards to the Hooded Plover breeding program.

1.5 DOMESTIC ANIMAL STATISTICS

The Borough of Queenscliffe falls more closely into the animals per population rather than animals per residential premises as a significant number of residential premises are used as holiday homes.

The slight increase in dogs may be as a result of the population demographic and their reasons for living in the Borough.

The significant shortfall in the number of cats may be as a result of the significant flora and fauna in the area and a heightened awareness of environmental concerns.

Registered Dog/Cats	737 approx
Declared Dogs	0
Reg'd Domestic Animal Businesses	0
Animals seized/surrendered	16
Dogs/cats reclaimed	16
Dogs/cats euthanased	0
Prosecutions	0
Dog/Cat population	737 approx
Complaints received	490

It should be noted that many of the dogs using Borough of Queenscliffe areas are visiting from outside the Borough.

2. TRAINING OF AUTHORISED OFFICERS

The Borough of Queenscliffe Council's Law Enforcement Unit administers and provides a broad range of services to ensure Council meets its legislative responsibilities in the management of domestic animals.

All officers are Authorised under Section 72 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and are authorised as general inspectors under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986. (POCTA)

These services include:

- providing advice on domestic animal matters;
- investigating customer complaints;
- educating residents and promoting responsible pet ownership;
- maintaining a domestic animal register;
- impounding of wandering, unwanted/surrendered and /or feral dogs and cats;
- investigation of dog attacks;
- providing a 24-hour a day after-hours emergency service;
- inspection and registration of domestic animal businesses; and
- developing and maintaining partnerships with organisations such as veterinary clinics, animal welfare groups and other stakeholders.

Council recognises that pets are an integral part of many people's lives and is actively seeking new and innovative ways to support pet owners and to harness the recognised health and social benefits of responsible pet ownership.

2.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Council's objective is to ensure that all staff involved in animal management have the knowledge and skills necessary to pro-actively, consistently and professionally carry out their work.

As part of Council's annual staff performance planning process an annual training program is developed with each staff member, to ensure they receive appropriate skills development throughout the year:

Regular in-house training sessions including investigations, animal control/welfare, use of animal equipment and vehicles are conducted, i.e.

- Bureau of Animal Welfare Training Days.
- Mentoring from experienced senior staff.
- Occupational Health and safety training and basic first aid training.

2.2 OUR PLANNED TRAINING FOR AUTHORISED OFFICERS

Authorised Officer Training	2021-25	Planned
Cert IV in Animal Control and Regulation Officer 1 Officer 2 Officer 3	N/A N/A N/A	Experienced Experienced Experienced
Cert IV in Animal welfare (Regulation) Officer 1 Officer 2 Officer 3	N/A N/A N/A	Experienced Experienced Experienced
Microchip implantation training	Certified	If available
Industry training – animal handling, animal assessment, statement taking, prosecution, computer skills Officer 1 Officer 2 Officer 3	Annual refreshers if available and time permits	Annual refreshers if available and time permits
OH&S training – dealing with aggressive customers	If available	
Customer Service training – Conflict resolution	If available	
Induction program for new staff	As per corporate policy	As per corporate policy
Other	Further training to be identified and individual officer plan developed	Annual review to identify.

2.3 OUR PLAN

Ongoing training will be provided to officers as required and as provided via external agencies, industry organisations or specific animal groups.

Current officers are considered experienced and have developed both skills and knowledge over an extensive period employment within the industry.

Council currently does not intend to utilize section 72A officers for the purpose of animal management.

Training opportunities (future) will be evaluated as they arise.

Objective 1: Ensure a high level of both skills and knowledge are obtained by all animal enforcement officers authorised by Council..

Activity	When	Evaluation
<i>Minimum qualifications and experience to be included in any future position descriptions.</i>	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Documentation to be finalised and incorporated into an approved council position description.</i>
<i>Identify additional training opportunities by consultation with management and staff</i>	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Training requirements to be added to Council training calendar.</i>

Objective 2: Ensure animal management officers have the skills necessary to support the community and effectively perform their regulatory role

Activity	When	Evaluation
Animal Handling training	On-going	Evaluation based on officer handling of any and all animal management issues.
Certificates	On-going	Officers currently hold many certificates and qualifications in animal management. Together with years of on-the-job experience.

3. PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP AND COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

3.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

The Borough currently has a static animal population with a high level of compliance; ongoing programs are in place to ensure that all animal owners are aware of their responsibilities under the current legislation.

- Maximise the number of registered and identified domestic animals (pets).
- issuing of identification tags and registration renewal notices;
- door knock problem areas or areas where complaints have been received in relation to registration matters; and
- animal control information in local newspapers and on radio.

Officers investigate all complaints received in relation to animal management issues and follow through until a resolution has been achieved.

On-going patrols of all areas of the municipality occur daily and include high levels of beach patrols during the 'restriction period'.

3.2 OUR ORDERS, LOCAL LAWS, COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CURRENT ORDERS:

- Requiring dogs and cats to be microchipped at the time of registration.
- Dogs on Leads Order.
- Requiring dogs and cats over 3 months of age to be registered.
- Cat Control Order (Curfew)

CURRENT LOCAL LAWS:

- Animals on Council Land and Public Places
- Keeping of Animals on Residential Properties (numbers)

CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Policies exist for all matters relating to Local Laws in the 'Policies and Procedures' Manual

Further policies will need to be developed on an on-going basis

3.3 OUR PLAN

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure responsible pet ownership brochures are distributed within the community and promotion of registration requirements are increased in local media	Ongoing	Review annual fluctuations in registration numbers
Follow up on current registrations with regards to up-to-date information.	May each year	Review of statistics monthly
Conduct random door knocking within the Borough to ensure compliance with animal registration	Ongoing	Review of statistics monthly
Provide information and assistance to all pet owners with regards to legislative requirements. Assist with any enquiries received during routine patrols throughout the municipality.	On-going	Feedback received by animal owners.

Objective 2: Promote 'Safe Cat, Safe Wildlife'* messaging among residents.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Provide access to safe Cat, Safe Wildlife education material through the municipal web site: www.safecat.org.au)	On-going	Feedback from residents and users.
Provide access to cat 'traps' to all residents as required.	On-going	Number of calls relating to usage requirements

4. PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS OVER-POPULATION RATES AND ANY HIGH EUTHANASIA RATES

4.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Council currently has extremely low levels of euthanasia in its animal population and does not experience any major fluctuations in population levels.

Dogs and/or cats euthanised	0
Complaints received in relation to over population.	0
Infringements issued in relation to excess animals	0
Dogs and cats desexed	672
Agreements in place with external groups/organisations	0
Traps available for hire	4

4.2 OUR ORDERS, LOCAL LAWS, COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CURRENT ORDERS:

- A cat curfew between the hours of 8.00pm (EST) and 6.00am (EST) was adopted by Council on 13 September 2001.
- There is one leash free area in The Borough of Queenscliffe for dogs.

.Current Local Laws:

- Restrictions on the number of animals to be kept at any property.
- Restrictions on dogs being on prescribed beaches from December to February each year.
- Requirement on dog owners to remove and dispose of faeces deposited by their dog in a public place.

CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

- Reduced registration fees for de sexed animals.
- Policy and procedure for impounding dogs and cats found at large.
- Policy for surrender of dogs/cats by owners.

4.3 OUR PLAN

Council contracts its pound services to The Geelong Animal Welfare Society. Under this contract, The Geelong Animal Welfare Society provides the Borough of Queenscliffe's Pound facilities. The Geelong Animal Welfare Society is open to the public every day, Mon-Fri 9am-4.00pm, Saturday 10am-3pm, Sunday 1pm-4pm, all Public Holidays 1pm-4pm and is closed on Christmas Day

Borough of Queenscliffe impound statistics	2019-2020	2020-2021
Dogs Impounded	20	13
Returned to Owner	20	13
Dogs Rehoused	0	2
Dogs Euthanased	0	0
Cats Impounded	0	2
Returned to Owner		1
Cats Rehoused		1
Cats Euthanased		0

The Borough of Queenscliffe makes every effort to reunite the animal with the owner in the first instance, any animals taken to the Geelong Animal Welfare Society is generally reunited or rehoused.

As a result of the requirement for mandatory microchipping the majority of animals being able to be identified and reunited.

Impounded felines are generally kittens (litters) where the parent cat cannot be identified.

5. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION

5.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

The Borough of Queenscliffe continues to have a static level of registrations for both dogs and cats. Fluctuations rarely occur beyond a small number either up or down in any given registration year. A small population with very little movement ensures that animal registration is complied with to a very high level.

A summary of registered animals is provided below:

Cats	
Desexed & Micro-chipped	75
Desexed Cats	11
Dual Registration	7
Pensioner Cat (desexed)	27
Dogs	
Desexed Dogs	453
Dual Registration	41
Entire & Micro-chipped	12
Entire Dogs	39
Pensioner Dogs (Desexed)	101
Pensioner Dogs (Entire)	6
Registered – Organsiation (Owner/Animal)	1

5.2 OUR ORDERS, LOCAL LAWS, COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CURRENT ORDERS:

All cats must be desexed prior to registration.

CURRENT LOCAL LAWS:

2 Dogs and/or 2 cats may be kept on a property without a permit. Additional animals require a permit, which will be based on an assessment criteria and a fee set by Council.

CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Legislation is used to determine all standard operating procedures.

OUR CURRENT COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

Conduct random door knocking each year, based on non-renewal or registration for unregistered dogs and cats.

All seized and impounded animals are identified as required and registered and microchipped prior to their release.

Patrols of all public places to check that dogs are registered.

5.3 OUR PLAN

- Maintain the current level of animal registrations
- Conduct door knocks to identify unregistered dogs and cats
- Advertise pet registration renewals – webpage, entry points of Council.
- Provide for online registration and a range of registration payment methods
- Community education on registration and microchipping –via brochures, handouts, social media and website

Objective 1: Increase the number of dog and cat registrations by conducting door knocks and educating residents in relation to their legislative obligations.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Maintain the current level of animal registrations	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Follow up on any and all unregistered animals in June/July via letter notification followed by door knocks</i>

Objective 2: Conduct door knocks to identify unregistered dogs and cats

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Conduct door knocks to identify unregistered dogs and cats	<i>June/July</i>	<i>Reconciliation of all non re-registered animals.</i>

Objective 3: Advertise pet registration renewals – webpage, entry points of Council.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Advertise pet registration renewals – webpage, entry points of Council.	<i>March</i>	<i>Audit of website, social media pages to ensure that information is up to date, current and correct.</i>

Objective 4: Provide for online registration and a range of registration payment methods

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Provide for online registration and a range of registration payment methods	<i>February/March</i>	<i>Registration renewals both manual and electronic. Various methods of payment availability through I.T. services</i>

Objective 5: Community education on registration and microchipping –via brochures, handouts, social media and website

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Community education on registration and microchipping – via brochures, handouts, social media and website	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Feedback from customers and Customer Service Staff.</i>

6 NUISANCE

6.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Council, on average receives approximately 8 barking dog complaints per annum. Council also received approximately 6 requests for cat traps annually.

Council uses a complaints database to ensure that all concerns are logged and allocated to the applicable officers. Status of the complaint ensures that any follow up is achieved within an acceptable time frame.

The complaints database has the ability to keep 'notes' on any investigations and outcomes.

In the majority of cases the complaint is brought to a successful conclusion by negotiation.

6.2 OUR ORDERS, LOCAL LAWS, COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Council follows the requirements of the Domestic Animal Act in relation to registration of both dogs and cats.

Council has an order in place relating to a Cat Curfew.

Council has an order in place relating to Dog on lead and Restriction times for beach usage,

CURRENT ORDERS:

- Requiring dogs and cats to be microchipped at the time of registration.
- Dogs on Leads Order.
- Requiring dogs and cats over 3 months of age to be registered.
- Cat Control Order (Curfew)

CURRENT LOCAL LAWS:

- Animals on Council Land and Public Places
- Keeping of Animals on Residential Properties (numbers)
- Provide a means for residents to obtain cat traps to assist in dealing with roaming cats.

CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Polices exist for all matters relating to Local Laws in the 'Policies and Procedures' Manual

OUR CURRENT COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

- Council officers provide an information pack to dog owners to assist in reducing the dog barking on every barking dog complaint received.
- Dog faeces bag dispensers are provided by Council and are located in high population dog walking areas.
- Information provided to cat owners about responsibilities of pet owners and cat enclosures.
- Encouragement of de-sexing of animals to reduce roaming by providing reduced registration fees.
- Periodical media releases to public promoting responsible pet ownership.

6.3 OUR PLAN

Promote community harmony by carrying out thorough and timely investigations into any reported animal nuisance complaints.

Ensure the appropriate number of animals are housed in accordance with the guidelines for the keeping of animals.

Develop Policies and Procedures to enhance current information.

Objective 1: Promote community harmony

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Promote community harmony by carrying out thorough and timely investigations into any reported animal nuisance complaints.	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Feedback from customers and Customer Service Staff. Timelines provided in complaints database.</i>

Objective 2: Keeping of animal numbers

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Ensure the appropriate number of animals are housed in accordance with the guidelines for the keeping of animals.	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Multiple animal permits database. Inspections of all requests to keep multiple animals to ensure that the health and welfare of the animals are appropriate</i>

Objective 3: Assist in the reduction of unwanted cat trespass.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Promote Councils cat curfew order.	On-going	Number of cat traps provided. Number of stray cats apprehended
Provide education material regarding the keeping of cats	On-going	Number of complaints received.

Objective 4: Policy and Procedure Development

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Produce Policies and Procedures to assist in the monitoring of nuisance type complaints	On-going	Number of cat traps provided. Number of stray cats apprehended

7 DOG ATTACKS

7.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Council receives very few reports of dog attacks, those received are entered into the Council complaints database and forwarded to the appropriate officers for investigation. Those that are reported are investigated and dealt with at the first available opportunity, generally, this is immediately.

Council introduced a dog on leash order throughout the municipality (except on the area designated as an 'off leash' area) which has resulted in a significant reduction in dogs that wander, cause a nuisance or attack people or other animals.

At present Council has, NIL declared dogs registered in the municipality.

Council officers work in a collaborative manner with both the complainant and the animal owner in an effort to achieve a satisfactory outcome for all concerned.

7.2 OUR ORDERS, LOCAL LAWS. COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CURRENT ORDERS:

- Order requiring dogs to be restrained at all times when in public places.

CURRENT LOCAL LAWS:

- Restriction on number of animals kept at any property.

CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

- Policy relating to seizing dogs found at large/ not confined to owners property.
- Enforcement strategy in issuance of notice to comply and infringements for non-compliance.
- Procedure for prosecution action relating to dog attacks.
- Procedure for authorised officers to assist Victoria Police in investigation involving a dog attack to a person resulting in death (Sec319 (b) *Crimes Act*).
- Authorised Officers utilise the DJPR's website for guidance.

OUR CURRENT COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

- Regular patrols of the municipality by authorised officers. High risk/complaint areas receive extra patrols.
- A 24-hour emergency response provided by Authorised Officers.
- Immediate response to any reported dog attacks.
- Dogs involved in attacks of a serious nature would be declared dangerous dogs pursuant with the Act.
- All dogs prior to adoption through the animal shelter must pass relevant temperament testing.
- Provide education and promotion activities.

7.3 OUR PLAN

- Ensure information provided is current and up to date as well as accurate and accessible to any interested party.
- Increased patrols for dogs of leash in all areas.

Objective 1: *Improve public awareness regarding animal attacks.*

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Provide information to inform both complainants and animal owners about the responsibilities of owners if an attack occurs	On-going	Number of enquiries from complainants.

Objective 2: *Increase Patrols*

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Increase patrols in all public areas to ensure compliance with dogs on leash order.	On-going	Numbers of offenders identified. Number of PIN's issued. Number of animals impounded.

8 DANGEROUS, MENACING AND RESTRICTED BREED DOGS

8.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Currently, the Borough of Queenscliffe has no dangerous, menacing or restricted breed dogs registered within the municipality.

8.2 OUR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Provide details of dangerous dogs on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry
- Council is following the DAA procedures to comply with recent changes to the Act

CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

All policies and procedures aligned with the Domestic Animal Act and guidelines provided by Da.Iglo (DJPR)

Policy for dealing with possible dangerous and/or menacing dogs

CURRENT COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES:

- Our current educational, promotional and compliance activities include:
- Providing brochures and other information on Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed dogs
- Immediate follow up on any complaint received
- Checking all new registrations

8.3 OUR PLAN

- *No registration of restricted breed dogs*
- *Ensure on-going training of officers in line with any changes to legislation*
- *Microchip checking of all newly registered animals*

Objective 1: *No registration of restricted breed dogs in the Borough*

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Develop a policy to assist decision making regarding the registration refusal of any restricted breed animals	On-going	Nil incidents of Restricted Breed animals being registered.

Objective 2: Ensure on-going training of officers re Restricted Breed animals

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
Identify training opportunities for officers.	On-going	Current skill levels of officer

9 DOMESTIC ANIMAL BUSINESSES

9.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

There are no Domestic Animal Business currently located within the Borough of Queenscliffe.

9.2 OUR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

- Enforcement of the legislative requirements of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and relevant Codes of Practice.
- Borough of Queenscliffe General Local Law 2021 specifies the number of animals permitted on a property without a permit, depending on the dwelling type.

9.3 OUR PLAN

- Identify any Domestic Animal Business that begin to operate within the Borough
- Provide all potential Domestic Animal Businesses with relevant Code of Practice.
- Fact sheets available at Council offices and provide links via Council website

Objective 1: *Identify and register all Domestic Animal Businesses*

Activity	When	Evaluation
Identify all businesses that should be registered DABs in the municipality, including businesses selling pets / pet products / services in the municipality. Follow up to determine whether they are and should be registered with council.	On-going	Number of DAB's identified Number of DAB's registered/not registered.
Monitor councils registration database for owners with more than 3 fertile females	On-going	Audit of Council registration records and any follow up investigations.

Objective 2: *Provide potential DAB's with relevant Codes of Practice and Information*

Activity	When	Evaluation
Identify any potential DAB's and provide them with Codes of Practice and/or other information available.	On-going	Number of DAB's identified Number of DAB's registered/not registered.

10 OTHER MATTERS

10.1 CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

Pandemic Plans.

Council recognizes that during a 'pandemic', either animal or human, that circumstances may arise where the welfare of domestic animals may be adversely affected.

If the pandemic results in animals not being able to be cared for by their owners, domestic animals would be transported to temporary housing if another carer was unavailable (if owner unable to care).

The owner will pay all costs of boarding or veterinary expenses.

Animal Care:- Horses – short time only (10-14 days) provided by Local Laws officers, longer periods would need to be by agistment elsewhere in order to provide adequate and ongoing care.

Transportation of animals, if owner or representative is unable, to be carried out by Local Law Enforcement vehicles (animals small) or via outside contractors when dealing with larger animal types.

10.2 OUR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CURRENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Council policies and procedures are out-lined in the Council Health and Wellbeing Plan and is included in the Council Pandemic Plan.

CURRENT COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES:

Provide information for all animal owners regarding the Pandemic Plan in relation to animal welfare

10.3 OUR PLAN

- *Provide access to information via web site, social media and customer service centre*

Objective 1: *Provide Information via various outlets*

<i>Activity</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Evaluation</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Provide access to information via web site, social media and customer service centre</i>	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Number of animals rescued/relocated or cared for.</i>

EVALUATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DOMESTIC ANIMALS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Objective 1: Comply with Section 68A (3) of the Act

Activity	When	Evaluation
Provide the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resource Secretary with a copy of the new Domestic Animal Management Plan	December 2021	Copy Supplied by February 2022 (Delay due to COVID)
Review and report annually on the Domestic animal Management Plan and, if appropriate, amend the plan	Annually	Plan reviewed, updated and reformatted to align with template provided